

# STATEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE SYBIL BRAND COMMISSION FOR INSTITUTIONAL INSPECTIONS KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION

500 WEST TEMPLE STREET, ROOM 372

LOS ANGELES, CA 90012

http://sbc.lacounty.gov

Wednesday, January 23, 2013 10:00 AM

AUDIO LINK FOR THE ENTIRE MEETING. (13-0517)

<u>Attachments:</u> <u>AUDIO</u>

Present: Chairperson Eleanor R. Montaño, Vice Chairperson Frank S. Bacio,

Commissioner Barbara Bigby and Commissioner Donald S. Andrews

Excused: Commissioner Cheryl Grills Ph.D., Commissioner Anne S. Hill

and Commissioner Susan Burton

Call to Order. (13-0408)

Chairperson Montaňo called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Chairperson Montaňo led in the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by a moment of silence.

#### I. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTER

**1.** Approval of the January 16, 2013 Minutes. (13-0409)

On motion of Commissioner Barbara Bigby, seconded by Commissioner Donald Andrews, unanimously carried, the minutes of January 16, 2013 were approved.

**Attachments:** SUPPORTING DOCUMENT

#### II. DISCUSSION

2. Discussion on the role of the Inmate Welfare Commission and the use of the Inmate Welfare funds. (13-0410)

Mr. Jay Stroh, Chairperson, Inmate Welfare Commission (IWC) and Ms. Karen Dalton, Director, Inmate Services Bureau, Sheriff's Department,

attended the January 23, 2013 Sybil Brand Commission (SBC) meeting to address/clarify the Commissioner's questions/concerns regarding the role of the IWC and the use of the Inmate Welfare Fund. The Commission's concerns originated from the October 17, 2013 SBC business meeting, where while discussing the public communication services contract, the Commissioners were informed that the unused funds were deposited into the Inmate Welfare Fund. As a result, the Commissioner's directed staff to invite a representative from IWC to a future SBC meeting.

Ms. Dalton stated that she works directly under Commander Gerald Cooper who informed her that the Commission had concerns regarding the telephone contract that led to questions regarding how the Inmate Welfare Funds are managed. Ms. Dalton stated that funds are managed through the IWC and deferred the reporting to Mr. Stroh.

Mr. Stroh provided the Commissioners with a brief summary of his extensive background in law enforcement of 49 ½ years. Mr. Stroh stated that the IWC is comprised of nine Commissioners with varied backgrounds that work together to reach one common goal. Together they strive to provide inmates with the tools they need in order to make the transition back into society upon release. Mr. Stroh further stated that the funds are generated from the telephone contract, vending machines, and products that are made and sold by inmates. All revenue is returned to spending for inmates where many innovated programs have been formed, including the Century City Women's Facility where women are taught how to cook and provide for their home upon release. Many women have had the opportunity to work for corporations such as Albertson's Food Grocers Deli department. Mr. Stroh concluded by stating that the Commission is working towards continuing the program for as long as possible, Mr. Stroh also answered questions posed by the Commissioners.

In response to Vice Chairperson Bacio's question, Ms. Dalton stated that the Inmate Welfare Fund is an active fund and the largest allocation of the 24 million dollars covers the inmate programs and the staff that oversees the Inmate Services Bureau. The fund also is used for the purchase of hygiene kits, newspapers, combs, envelopes, stamps, toothpaste and a toothbrush. The fund doesn't go towards medical expenses; however, since the IWC approved the purchase of a tattoo removal machine, the fund pays for overtime for the medical services staff. Additionally, because the Sheriff is an advocate for education, the

GED program is an ongoing volunteer program; however, beginning in 2014 the program will no longer offer a paper test but a standardized web based test.

Following discussion, Commissioner Andrews thanked them for an informative presentation and suggested that the Commissioners who were absent access the audio from the meeting to captivate all information presented.

Chairperson Montaño also thanked them for coming and stated that she has a better understanding of her many concerns. Ms. Dalton invited the Commissioners to tour the Century Regional Detention Facility (CDRF) and Men's Central Jail (MCJ) to observe the food service program. Chairperson Montaño advised them that the Commission is available Mondays, Tuesdays, or Thursdays.

#### III. REPORTS

**3.** Chairperson's Report on various items for January 23, 2013. (13-0429)

Chairperson Montaňo shared the following Newspaper Articles with the Commissioners:

# **Los Angeles Times:**

- Taking Lock, Stock, Barrel (January 22, 2013)
- Board Tangles With Sheriff (January 23, 2013)

### **Daily Breeze:**

 Miscommunication or Dishonesty: Story of Gardena Mayor's Race Unclear (January 18, 2013)

<u>Attachments:</u> <u>SUPPORTING DOCUMENT</u>

**4.** Treasurer's Report for January 23, 2013. (13-0430)

Vice Chairperson Frank Bacio reported that the current bank statement balance of the Commission's Charitable Fund remains at \$600.96.

**5.** Staff Report on Correspondence Received and Department Representative Reports for January 23, 2013. (13-0431)

Ms. Bolaji Famuyiwa, Commission Services Staff, reported that the

revised/updated 2013 Group Home Inspection list are being distributed to the Commissioners. Ms. Famuyiwa also inquired about the Commissioner's request for a facilitator for the workshop scheduled for February 27, 2013.

Commissioner Andrews stated that his original motion was to bring the Commission together to review the duties, responsibilities, and the Inspection forms. This will aid the Commission to be consistent in reporting their inspection findings. After a brief discussion the Commissioners decided a facilitator was not necessary for the workshop.

**6.** Review of Group Home Compliance Monitoring Audit Reports presented on January 23, 2013. (13-0433)

There were no reports presented.

7. Commissioners Reports on Group Home and/or Detention Facilities Inspections from January 17, 2013 to January 22, 2013. (13-0434)

During the reporting period the following Group Homes/Facilities were reported as being in satisfactory condition:

- Chairperson Montano and Commissioner Andrews visited Whittier Court on January 22, 2013.
- Commissioners Bigby and hill visited Rancho San Antonio Boy's Home Page 36 #2, on January 17, 2013.
- Vice Chairperson Bacio visited Edelman's Children's Branch Superior Court on January 22, 2013.
- Vice Chairperson Bacio visited Trinity Children's Family Services Page 41 #3, on January 17, 2013.

During the reporting period the following facility was visited but not inspected:

• Commissioners Bigby and Hill visited Chatsworth Court on January 22, 2013 and reported that this facility no longer has a lock-up.

# **IV. MISCELLANEOUS**

#### **Matters Not Posted**

8. Matters not on the posted agenda, to be discussed and (if requested) referred to staff or placed on the agenda for action at a future meeting, or matters requiring immediate action because of an emergency situation or where the need to take action came to the attention of the Committee subsequent to the posting of the agenda. (13-0435)

There were no matters presented for a future agenda.

#### **Public Comment**

**9.** Opportunity for members of the public to address the Commission on items of interest that are within the jurisdiction of the Commission. (13-0436)

There were no members of the public present to address the Commission.

# <u>Adjournment</u>

**10.** Adjournment for the meeting of January 23, 2013. (13-0437)

There being no further business, the meeting of January 23, 2013 was adjourned at 12:00 p.m.